

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1154 without my signature.

This bill imposes new mandates on companies offering consumer rebates by requiring a minimum of 30 days for the consumer to submit the rebate request from the date the consumer purchases the product or becomes eligible for the rebate. This bill further requires the rebate to be returned back to the consumer within the same specified number of days provided to the customer to submit the rebate request and prohibits a company from requiring more than receipt as proof of purchase.

While this bill purports to provide flexible options for compliance for companies offering rebates, the bill will have the effect of reducing the number of rebates offered by manufacturers. This bill will present unnecessary barriers for companies doing business in multiple states since the rebate terms for California residents would differ from those in the rest of the country.

Existing contract law and federal and state consumer protection laws make this bill unnecessary and could cause conflicts for companies that make nationwide rebates offered that would encourage companies to exclude California from their nationwide consumer rebate offers.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger